

# BOOKS OF THE WEEK IN REVIEW

## CRITICAL REVIEWS OF THE SEASON'S LATEST BOOKS

A Story of Violent Action—Ayer's Newspaper Annual—Historic Places of New England.  
New International Year Book—Books on Arts and Crafts—Outdoor Life, Literary and Other Subjects.

**BINDWEED.** (Dodd, Mead and Company.) By Gabrielle Valhalla. (\$1.50.)

The clouds are made to gather in remarkably ominous fashion in this story. When Mme. Perinot went to the Place of the Wolves to get the dress that had been made for her aged mother she was painfully disturbed. An enveloping wind of destiny, a cold foreboding of unknown terror, the blank mist of fear that presages dissolution—in such phrases is the lady's apprehension described. There is much to disturb the reader before the great shock occurs.

Old Victorine, the fishwife, malevolent, masculine, with something of a mustache, was a savage guardian for Eugénie, the singing girl, her niece; and M. Hypolite, the masquerading tenor, would have carried on his philandering less bitterly, perhaps, if he had been aware of Victorine in the background. This is a bit of symbolism where Victorine throws out a five franc piece to the girl of the streets who sits down on the sidewalk to bathe her aching feet in the gutter. "He!" cried Victorine, and she thrust her chin so painfully when it struck her. "As she ran her skirt flapped against her legs and her black hair streamed out behind her." Before the frightened girl ran, however, she pounced upon the five franc piece. She carried it off safely clutched in her hand.

There was great violence of action when Hypolite was flitted by the Russian diva who married Prince Yerkitsky. She nearly died of the choking. But the great shock of the story comes when Victorine stabs the figure that ascends the dark stairway in the Place of Wolves, believing it to be Hypolite. Really it was the girl, the priest, the Abbé Goujon, and it was no more than a proper explanation when Victorine threw herself over the stair rail and fell five stories. This whole closing scene is thoroughly complicated and disturbing.

**BROMLEY NEIGHBORHOOD.** (Macmillan.) By Alice Brown. (\$1.50.)

Studies of temperaments, psychological analyses of character of the gloomy sort favored by the Scandinavians, Russian and late Teutons, writers are made in the unlikely setting of a farming community close to the New England coast by Alice Brown in *Bromley Neighborhood* (Macmillan). The place is a rare survival for there is no hint of the presence of foreigners and the year 1914, the servants are still "help" and "pious men," and pioneer characteristics are supposed to persist. The author is so intent on psychological depths that she gives no hint of church life and very little attention to agricultural occupations; it is soul histories she wishes to describe with the proper gloom. The elder tragedy concerns a middle aged couple, a taciturn domestic tyrant, a familiar enough type in European peasant tales, though rather strange in such a setting as New England, and his loyal wife, a woman of education and strong character, whose reticence and submission to her husband seem wholly foreign to the habits of American and particularly New England women at any time. The other people, their generation, their interests, are of less importance, the author allows them to remain plain New England country folk. The heroine of the younger drama is correctly described by her elderly mentor as a prig. Though the author apparently admires her feelings of superiority and her aversion to the people about her and her surroundings, as well as her immature ethical standards, she will strike many readers as an unpleasant girl, only ennobled when she is talking with the queer bohemian who looks after her. He is a philosopher, a village reprobate, who lives his own life regardless of comments, and turns to spells of drunkenness when his troubles get too much for him. That type is also not unknown in fiction. The doings of the younger people suffer from their having to serve as psychological types; if they were allowed to act naturally as Yankee youngsters do even in this twentieth century they would be much more attractive. At the end the war is dragged in to help the girl and her lover to take up to the realities of life. The genuine observation of life and persons in the New England that the author really knows is so good that we can only regret to have it obscured by literary, psychological ideals that hardly seem applicable.

**AYER'S NEWSPAPER LIST.**

The announcement of the appearance of the edition for 1917 of N. W. Ayer & Son's *Newspaper Annual and Directory* (N. W. Ayer & Son, Philadelphia) will suffice, without comment or word of praise, for all who are acquainted with that invaluable work of reference. In being brought up to date it retains all the merits that have been shown in previous issues. The statistics of population with the condensed descriptions of States and towns, have a value of their own wholly apart from the purpose of the directory, while the statements about the newspapers and other periodicals have proved impartial and trustworthy. This year the number of publications listed is 24,868, a net increase last year of 219; the addition of new publications amounts to 1,585, the difference being accounted for by publications which have stopped. In the United States there has been an increase, in Canada a slight decrease owing to the war. The number of towns in which newspapers are published is 11,870, an increase of 178 over last year. Many improvements over previous issues are explained in the remarkably interesting introduction and the colored maps as usual are very satisfactory. Ayer's remains the standard newspaper directory and looks forward to its fiftieth anniversary next year.

**THE JOYFUL YEARS.** (E. P. Dutton & Co.) By F. T. Wawn. (\$1.50.)

A lovely young girl in F. T. Wawn's *The Joyful Years* (E. P. Dutton & Co.) is pursued by the attentions of three suitors. One is a philandering, middle aged literary man who attracts her greatly, who flirts with her rather dangerously, but who has enough self-restraint to behave like a gentleman and look after the girl's welfare. He is the climactic figure, the one who wins the girl's love and art. Another is a selfish business man whose behavior is reprehensible. The third is a young fellow, a clerk, who later develops a knack for drawing. The girl takes to him as a companion, and as youth draws youth to itself gradually falls in love with him. The courtship is described in a very leisurely manner so as to give time for the author to exhibit his steadily cheerful humor and his powers of minute description of clothes, rooms and places. Abetted by the writer, the two young people run away and marry, and they have a delightful honeymoon in Cornwall, where they first became interested in each other. Then the war intervenes; the writer and the husband both go to the front. The author fortunately abridges the young man's experiences and sends him home soon, wounded, to

his wife and baby. The two young people are very nice; there are some amusing young girls besides, and the older people turn out to be pleasant than the author at first intended. It is an entertaining and good humored story, told perhaps in a little too leisurely manner.

**IN THE NIGHT.** (Longmans, Green & Co.) By R. Gorell Barnes. (\$1.25.)

The author of an ingenious murder mystery, *In the Night* (Longmans, Green & Co.), R. Gorell Barnes, is the grandson of a distinguished English jurist, is himself a barrister as well as a soldier, and employs the convenience of convalescence from wounds in planning and writing his tale. Annoyed at the self-sufficiency and the intuitive powers of the heroes of detective fiction, he decided that the reader should be put in possession of all the evidence as it comes to light. He cannot resist the temptation of making the professionals of the police blunder, but he makes up for it by making the clever young woman who gets on the trail work out logically a deduction that turns out to be wrong also. The solution of the mystery is one that could not be expected. The story is constructed very ingeniously and holds the attention; if the persons who appear in it are rather wooden, that seems to be inevitable in detective stories.

**JOE MULLER, DETECTIVE.** (Duffield & Co.) By Grace Isabel Colborn and Augusta Groner. (\$1.25.)

The adventures of an Austrian detective, five stories which attracted attention some years ago by their quaintness and ingenuity, *Joe Muller, Detective*, by Grace Isabel Colborn and Augusta Groner, are issued in a new edition. They compare very favorably with most of the detective stories of local manufacture that have appeared since they were first published. (Duffield & Co.)

**CLEOMENES.** (John Lane Company.) By Marie Warrington Billings. (\$1.40.)

The picture of Rome in Nero's time that Marie Warrington Billings paints in *Cleomenes* (John Lane Company) is far from attractive. The hero is a sculptor, who seems to be on intimate terms with court society. At an orgy, where the participants drop their manners, he is ordered by Nero to carve a statue of maidenhood within a given time and to bring him the model with the statue. He comes across a young Greek girl with a remarkable history of misfortune, who serves as his model and falls in love with her, although he has been marked out for Nero. He is persecuted in consequence; the girl kills herself in Nero's presence and the sculptor ends his own life too. The statue is broken, but is placed together later and is now called the Venus de Medici. The author's analysis of Nero's character is interesting and the heroine is attractive and poetical.

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### SOME SIMILES BY O. HENRY

(From Wiltchak's "Dictionary of Similes.")  
As full of apathy as a territorial delegate during the chaplain's prayer.  
As good a chance to win as a man learning poker on an ocean steamer.  
Served as fast as you throw the five baseballs at the colored gentleman's head.  
Grand as floorwalkers.  
He looked like a composite picture of five thousand orphans too late to catch a picnic steamboat.  
His pockets looked like a pool table's after a fifteen ball run.  
Love should be as private a sentiment as a toothbrush.  
He shuddered like some woman's overfat pug when a street dog bristles up to him.  
A good story is like a bitter pill with the sugar coating inside of it.  
Thick as two body snatchers.

economic, historical and scientific. The later entrance of the United States into the war is taken into account in many of the articles by the presentation of information that is of special importance at the present moment. The number of new maps is very large and the choice of illustrations is particularly catholic. This issue of the Year Book is fully up to the standard it has set for itself, which has made it the most useful of its class for the purposes of Americans.

**New England Shrines.**

A pamphlet of unusual value which will be helpful to all who visit southern New England and which deserves as well as a soldier, and employs the convenience of convalescence from wounds in planning and writing his tale. Annoyed at the self-sufficiency and the intuitive powers of the heroes of detective fiction, he decided that the reader should be put in possession of all the evidence as it comes to light. He cannot resist the temptation of making the professionals of the police blunder, but he makes up for it by making the clever young woman who gets on the trail work out logically a deduction that turns out to be wrong also. The solution of the mystery is one that could not be expected. The story is constructed very ingeniously and holds the attention; if the persons who appear in it are rather wooden, that seems to be inevitable in detective stories.

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### Literary.

While many of the questions in Mary Eleanor Kramer's *One Thousand Literary Questions and Answers* (Sully and Kleinteich, New York) need not have been asked and some of the answers might easily have been made fuller and more satisfactory, there is enough information in the book to make it useful to many for reference. (\$1.)

Though it may be far from the highest form of literary art, the information provided by Marguerite Berthel in *How to Write for Moving Pictures* (George H. Doran Company) is useful. The author has had much practical experience with the picture plays and is able to warn would-be authors against the grosser blunders and crudenesses they are likely to perpetrate. (\$1.50)

Directions for amateur actors are given by Barrett H. Clark, a stage manager of experience, in *How to Produce Amateur Plays* (Little, Brown & Co.). The plays he suggests are real stage plays and not what the title implies. His advice will be helpful to all dramatic societies. (\$1.50)

### Outdoor Life.

The elementary, practical medical information conveyed by Dr. Norman B. Cole and Clayton H. Ennet in *First Aid for Boys* (Appletons), though intended primarily for Boy Scouts, will be valuable also to all who are now engaged in Red Cross work and should be known by everybody. The directions are put clearly. It is an admirable little book. (\$1.25)

A treatise on *Rifles and Shotguns* such as Warren H. Miller has written (George H. Doran Company) is of especial interest at the present moment because the author describes in detail the military rifles as well as sporting guns. The theoretical instructions in shooting have a value for instructors. The historical introduction is interesting. (\$2.)

### MISCELLANEOUS.

**Jewish Version of the Bible.**

A notable achievement is the publication of the new translation of *The Holy Scriptures*, made by a selected group of Jewish scholars, chiefly resident in the United States (The Jewish Publication Society of America, Philadelphia). When the undertaking was started, twenty-five years ago, the plan was to combine with English Jews in a work that would be authoritative in all English speaking lands. The outcome, however, has been that the almost all the work has been done by American Jewish scholars, many of whom died before the publication of the completed work, among them some of the best known rabbis. The latest results of modern investigation, philological, archaeological and critical, have been taken into consideration; the most approved text has been followed and the Christian

translations of the Old Testament have been consulted. The orthodox division of the books into the Law, the Prophets and the Writings has been followed of course. This latest version of the Old Testament should interest Christians fully as much as the Jews who speak English.

**What the Army Has Done.**

A timely reminder of the great services rendered by the army in times of peace is given by Helen S. Wright in *Our United States Army* (Robert J. Shores, New York), for which General Leonard Wood writes an introduction. The story of exploration, beginning with Lewis and Clark, is as thrilling as that of fighting in battle; then come the tales of Indian warfare, of preserving order in the gold fields, of preparing the way for the railroads across the continent, of administering the Spanish colonies and of building the Panama Canal. The story shows vividly the constructive side of militarism. (\$1.50.)

### Minnesota.

By planning and writing her exhaustive history of her State, *Our Minnesota* (E. P. Dutton & Co.), for children Hester M. Pollock has missed an opportunity of appealing to a much larger and certainly a more appreciative public. The collection and arrangement of facts, the appreciation of the dramatic and romantic events in the State's history is admirable, but a tendency to "write down" to children is fatal to the interest of adults if it is not also to that of young readers. Children do not enjoy and indeed will not tolerate being patronized in their reading any more than grownups will. Overfrequent allusions to "our beloved State" become quite as tiresome to youngsters as to any one else. (\$1.40.)

### Guide Books.

An enthusiastic description of the attractions of *Glacier National Park* has been written by Mathilde Edith Edits and Katharine Isabel Bemis (George H. Doran Company). The authors give all the information regarding hotels and transportation that the visitor will need, but dwell particularly on the beauties of the reservation, with plentiful information regarding the flora of the district, regarding glaciers in general as well as those in the park and especially regarding the neighboring Blackfoot Indians and their ways. The book is illustrated with many photographs; a map of the park, which might easily have been added, would have been helpful. (\$2.)

Effective laudation cannot kill the interest in the important and attractive features connected with the Grand Trunk railway system which Lillian Whiting describes in *Canada, the Spelling Binder* (J. M. Dent & Sons; E. P. Dutton & Co.). The author starts with the Nova Scotian end of the system; she travels through the settled portions of Canada, lingering in what she calls "Toronto the Beautiful," then proceeds through the newly opened West to Prince Rupert and thence by boat up and down the coast. She finds time to say something about Canadian literature and the Canadian future, but seems somehow never to have heard of the Canadian Pacific railroad. The book is illustrated with many photographs, some in color, and with a map. It gives interesting information within its limited sphere. (\$2.50.)

### From the Trenches on the Western Front.

**SOLDIERS' SPOKEN FRENCH**

By Helene Cross

*Richmond Times-Dispatch.* "An urgently needed short cut to the amount of French which it is necessary that our men who go to France should be able to speak. This little book is a practical, concentrated and efficient. Waterproof Binding—Pocket Size. 96c net. Postage extra. All bookstores. E. P. DUTTON & CO., 681 Fifth Ave., N. Y."

**READY NEXT WEEK**

**THE MEXICAN PROBLEM**

By C. W. BARRON

A vividly illuminating portrayal at first hand, with map and illustrations; also an introduction by Dr. Talcott Williams, who says:

"These articles on the 'Mexican Problem' by Mr. C. W. Barron are to my mind a clear and wise economic picture of Mexico, beyond any others that I have read—and there is very little of the recent literature of Mexico which I have not read or examined."

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### WAR'S REAL GLORY

**A STUDENT IN ARMS**

By Donald Hankey—a war hero.

*The Argonaut.* "The best the war has produced." *Bellman.* "One of the most forceful and genuine books inspired by the world's conflict." *Baltimore Sun.* "Reading with things we all want to know."

Just Published—Second Series of Donald Hankey's "A Student in Arms."

More of Donald Hankey's beautiful work, with interesting details of the author's life. Each \$1.50 Net. Postage Extra. At All Bookstores

**E. P. DUTTON & COMPANY, 681 Fifth Avenue, New York.**

## SERMON TOPICS IN THE CITY CHURCHES

Dr. Walter Buchanan to Preach at Broadway Presbyterian Church.

**UNITY SOCIETY.**—25 West Seventy-second street. At the Unity Society of Practical Christianity, 25 West Seventy-second street, Mrs. Van Marter will speak to-morrow at 11 o'clock on "The Greatest Occult Power," and in the evening on "Jesus Christ, Prophet, Priest and King."

**THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.**—"The Way to Be Protected in War" will be Mrs. Chapin's subject to-morrow morning at 11:15 o'clock. Central Park West and Broadway. Her Sunday morning lectures through July. She has accepted another invitation to speak to the boys in some of the military camps.

**BROADWAY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.**—Corner 11th street. At the Broadway Presbyterian Church, 11th street and Broadway, the Rev. Dr. Walter D. Buchanan, pastor, will preach Sunday morning at 11 o'clock on "A Message for These Times." There will be no evening service.

**FIRST CHURCH OF DIVINE SCIENCE.**—Hotel Astor. At the First Church of Divine Science, holding services in the Hotel Astor, Miss Nona E. Brooks will speak to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock on "The Power of the Spoken Word."

**RELIGIOUS ADVERTISEMENTS.**

**Tent Evangel.** 110th St. and Amsterdam Ave. Evangelist JOHN HAM BAPTIST.

**FIFTH AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH.**—Monday Evenings for Everybody, 8 to 9. Caroline M. Holmes, for 23 years a Missionary in Syria, Speaker.

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.**

Services are held in the following churches: FIFTH AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH, 110th St. and Amsterdam Ave. 11 A. M. and 4 P. M.

During July on Sunday Evening Services in Third, Fourth and Sixth Churches.

First Church of Divine Science, 11th St. and Broadway, Central Park West and 64th St. Third Church, 12th St. and Madison Ave. Fourth Church, Fort Washington Ave. 24 W. 48th St. Fifth Church, Astor-Lenox Concert Hall, 24 W. 48th St. Sixth Church, 1921 Washington Ave., Bronx.

**EVANGELISTIC.**

**REV. ALBERT T. BARNES.**—10 A. M. and 4 P. M. at 110th St. and Amsterdam Ave. Rev. A. L. Loebe of Central Africa.

**FRESHYTERIAN.**

**THE BRICK CHURCH.**—Fifth Avenue and Thirtieth Street. Ministers: William Thiers, Merrill, Frank Latimer, James T. Dr. Albert T. Barnes, 110th St. and Amsterdam Ave. 11 A. M. and 4 P. M. NOONDAY SERVICES daily (except Sunday) at 11 A. M.

**FIFTH AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.**—Rev. J. H. JOWETT, D. D., Pastor. Rev. JAMES PALMER, Ph.D., Associate Pastor. Services at 11 A. M. and 4:30 P. M. DR. ROBERT S. SPENCER will preach at both services.

**CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.**—Madison Ave. and 37th St. Rev. WILSON MERLE, D. D., Pastor. Rev. HENRY M. DYCKMAN, will preach at 11 A. M. and 4:30 P. M. "The Silence of God."

**RUTGERS.**—Rev. G. F. DEWEY, Associate Pastor, will preach at 11 A. M.

**PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL.**

**Church of Zion & St. Timothy.**—324 West 57th Street. Rev. HENRY LIEBECK, D. D., C. E. M. M. Communion, 11:00 A. M. Morning Prayer, 11:30 A. M. Morning Prayer, 11:30 A. M. Morning Prayer, 11:30 A. M.

**CHAPEL OF THE INTERSECTION.**—Trinity Parish, Broadway and 155th St. Always open. All seats free. 8 and 11 A. M. and 3:15 P. M.

**ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH.**—5th Ave. & 33d St. Rev. KENNETH M. STILES, D. D., Rector. 8, 11 (Holyday) and 3:15 P. M.

**GRACE CHURCH.**—Broadway and 10th St. Rev. Charles Lewis (Rector), D. D., Rector. 8, 11 (Holyday) and 3:15 P. M.

**PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH SOCIETY.**—105 West 87th St., Sun. 3 and 4 P. M. L. Variety and Christian Science demonstration.

**INSTRUCTION.**

**FOR GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN.**

**NEWBURGH-ON-HUDSON, N. Y.**

**MOUNT ST. MARY'S ACADEMY.**—Newburgh-on-Hudson, N. Y. Boarding school for young ladies and girls. Founded by the Sisters of the Holy Family. For further particulars write Mother Superior.

**OSSENING-ON-HUDSON—New York.**

**Mary Immaculate School of Eagle Park.**—OSSENING-ON-HUDSON, N. Y. A select boarding and day academy for girls. Chartered by the University of the State of New York. For further particulars address Sister Superior, Normal Department, 110th St. and Amsterdam Ave., New York City.

**TARRYTOWN-ON-HUDSON—New York.**

**MARYMOUNT.**—Tarrytown-on-Hudson, New York. Address the Reverend Mother for particulars.

**BRENTWOOD—New York.**

**St. Joseph's in-the-Forest, Brentwood, New York.** Boarding and day school for young ladies and little girls. Preparatory, collegiate, and normal courses. For particulars address Sister Superior.

**BUFFALO—New York.**

**MOUNT MARY ACADEMY, Buffalo, N. Y.** Courses embrace three departments, Primary, Intermediate and Junior High School. For particulars address Mother Superior.

**NOTRE DAME—Indiana.**

**St. Mary's College and Academy.**—Notre Dame, Indiana. College—Standard Academy (High School)—Comprehensive Normal Department—Accredited. Address the President.

**COLUMBUS—Ohio.**

**ST. MARY'S OF THE SPRINGS.**—College and Academy of the Sacred Heart, Clifton, Ohio. Open to all. Prepared to confer collegiate degrees. Write for booklet.

**STAMMERING.**

**NEW JERSEY—Ramey.**

**DO YOU STAMMER?**

Apply to the Ramey School, Ramey, N. J. Most successful school for stammering. Only school of its kind in the United States.

**NEW YORK CITY, New York.**

**BRYANT SCHOOL FOR STAMMERING.**—All speech impediments corrected by personal instruction. 26-A West 47th Street. Classes at Atlantic City July and August.

**AUTOMOBILE AND MOTOR TRUCK INSTRUCTION.**

**NEW YORK CITY—New York.**

**AUTOMOBILE** expenses reduced by knowing your car, day and evening instruction for owners, prospective owners, chauffeurs and ladies. Special course in Starnes Lighting and Ignition. **ELIAH** 15th Street West Side Y. M. C. A., 216 West 15th Street.

## NEW YORK'S PRIVATE SCHOOLS